



October 8, 2003

Johnston man is sentenced to 71 months in federal prison for shotgun incident

A federal judge has sentenced **Arthur Caparelli**, of Johnston, to 71 months in federal prison for being a felon in possession of a firearm for an incident in April in which he wielded a shotgun outside a truck-painting company.

The Office of the United States Attorney announced the sentence, which U.S. District Court Judge Mary M. Lisi imposed on October 3 in U.S. District Court, Providence. In July, Caparelli, 40, of 2005 Plainfield Pike, pleaded guilty to a one-count information charging him with being a felon in possession of a firearm.

At the hearing in July at which Caparelli pleaded guilty, Assistant U.S. Attorney Adi Goldstein said that, had the case gone to trial, the government would have proven that, on April 8, Johnston Police officers responded to a call from a truck painting company on A Street, Johnston, to find Caparelli wielding a loaded shotgun, his hand on the trigger. Caparelli was calling for one of the men in the shop to come outside. After several warnings from the police officers, Caparelli dropped the weapon and was arrested.

Caparelli has been detained since his arrest.

Johnston Police and the **Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives** investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Goldstein prosecuted it.

The case was prosecuted under a **Project Safe Neighborhoods** initiative in which firearms cases are jointly reviewed by the Rhode Island Attorney General's Office and the

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U.S. Attorney's Office to determine where best to prosecute them. Project Safe
Neighborhoods is a Department of Justice initiative against gun crimes and gun violence.

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